

A New Method for Graduate Education

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1

COMPONENTS

- Modified presentation-style class
- Interactive class website for student contributions
- Class theme directed by faculty expertise and OHSU's focus on molecular medicine
- Multiple faculty advisors, including scientific and presentation guidance

2

EXAMPLE: GOALS FOR A BMB ADVANCED CLASS

- Encourage students to seize every available resource for sifting and apprehending scientific matter (e.g., Nature podcasts, social bookmarking, RSS feeds, faculty, each other)
- Develop an appreciation for the molecular machines that duplicate nucleic acids
- Get familiar with Science 2.0 collaborative web-based tools (OWW and wiki)
- Create ambassadors for open science
- Improve presentation skills, both in form and scientific content
- Engage in active group-based learning
- Gain leadership and organizational experience
- Build a shared web resource for information obtained in the class

3

COURSE STRUCTURE

- How the class works
 - Instructors select and post literature links and supporting material
 - Students select from topics; contribute links and discussion points before class meets. Pre-performance student discussion.
 - Each student has an active role; presentation of background, topic, MC, evaluator, discussion leader.
 - Evaluation at the end of the class by faculty for science and delivery (Rachel Dresbeck)
 - Any deficiencies are corrected on the wiki; continued improvements

4

ADVANTAGES

- Students are very motivated because they must engage
- The class wiki is a central democratic repository for class information and a lasting record
- The students contribute directly to the class content
- Allows students with different skill sets to emerge
- Instructors are part of an innovative active teaching community

5

MORE INFORMATION

- How can I set up a wiki class
- Go to the main page of the wiki
- Information and links on handouts
- You can always get at these links, just google "Hotlin" and navigate to Biochemistry Advanced Topics

6